

Seasonal Greeting

	His mercy endures for ever.
Celebrant	Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

Collect of the Day

Almighty God, whose blessed Son was led by the Spirit to be tempted by Satan: Come quickly to help us who are assaulted by many temptations, and, as you know the weaknesses of each of us, let each one find you mighty to save; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Deuteronomy 26:(1-4)5-11

("When you come into the land that the LORD your God is giving you for an inheritance and have taken possession of it and live in it, ² you shall take some of the first of all the fruit of the ground, which you harvest from your land that the LORD your God is giving you, and you shall put it in a basket, and you shall go to the place that the LORD your God will choose, to make his name to dwell there. ³ And you shall go to the priest who is in office at that time and say to him, 'I declare today to the LORD your God that I have come into the land that the LORD swore to our fathers to give us.' ⁴ Then the priest shall take the basket from your hand and set it down before the altar of the Lord your God.)

⁵ "And you shall make response before the LORD your God, 'A wandering Aramean was my father. And he went down into Egypt and sojourned there, few in number, and there he became a nation, great, mighty, and populous. ⁶ And the Egyptians treated us harshly and humiliated us and laid on us hard labor. ⁷ Then we cried to the LORD, the God of our fathers, and the LORD heard our voice and saw our affliction, our toil, and our oppression. ⁸ And the LORD brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with great deeds of terror, with signs and wonders. ⁹ And he brought us into this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey. ¹⁰ And behold, now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground, which you, O LORD, have given me.' And you shall set it down before the LORD your God and worship before the LORD your God. ¹¹ And you shall rejoice in all the good that the LORD your God has given to you and to your house, you, and the Levite, and the sojourner who is among you.

Reader: The word of the Lord.*People:* Thanks be to God.

PSALTER VERSES

(In said services, the psalm verses may be placed between the Epistle and the Gospel, with the congregation standing in preparation for the Gospel. At services where there is a hymn or canticle before the Gospel, the psalm might be said between the Old Testament and Epistle, the people seated.)

Psalm 91 or 91:9-16

- (¹ Whoever dwells under the defense of the Most High * shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty.
- ² I will say unto the LORD, "You are my refuge and my stronghold, * my God in whom I will trust."
- ³ For he shall deliver you from the snare of the hunter * and from the deadly pestilence.
- ⁴ He shall defend you under his wings, and you shall be safe under his feathers; *

his faithfulness and truth shall be your shield and buckler.

- ⁵ You shall not be afraid of any terror by night, * nor of the arrow that flies by day,
- ⁶ Of the pestilence that walks in darkness, * nor of the sickness that destroys at noonday.
- ⁷ A thousand shall fall beside you, and ten thousand at your right hand, * but it shall not come near you.
- 8 Indeed, with your eyes you shall behold * and see the reward of the ungodly.)
- P Because you have said, "The LORD is my refuge," * and have made the Most High your stronghold,
- ¹⁰ There shall no evil happen to you, * neither shall any plague come near your dwelling.
- ¹¹ For he shall give his angels charge over you, * to keep you in all your ways.
- ¹² They shall bear you in their hands, *

that you hurt not your foot against a stone.

¹³ You shall tread upon the lion and adder; *

the young lion and the serpent you shall trample under your feet.

¹⁴ "Because he has set his love upon me, therefore I will deliver him; * I will lift him up, because he has known my Name.

¹⁵ He shall call upon me, and I will hear him; *

indeed, I am with him in trouble; I will deliver him and bring him honor.

¹⁶ With long life I will satisfy him, * and show him my salvation."

Epistle Reading

Romans 10:4-13

For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to everyone who believes.

⁵ For Moses writes about the righteousness that is based on the law, that the person who does the commandments shall live by them. ⁶ But the righteousness based on faith says, "Do not say in your heart, 'Who will ascend into heaven?'" (that is, to bring Christ down) ⁷ "or 'Who will descend into the abyss?'" (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). ⁸ But what does it say? "The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart" (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); ⁹ because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰ For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved. ¹¹ For the Scripture says, "Everyone who believes in him will not be put to shame." ¹² For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; for the same Lord is Lord of all, bestowing his riches on all who call on him. ¹³ For "everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."

Reader: The word of the Lord.*People:* Thanks be to God.

The Holy Gospel

Deacon: The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ, according to St. Luke.

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Luke 4:1-13

And Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by

the Spirit in the wilderness ² for forty days, being tempted by the devil. And he ate nothing during those days. And when they were ended, he was hungry. ³ The devil said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become bread." ⁴ And Jesus answered him, "It is written, 'Man shall not live by bread alone." ⁵ And the devil took him up and showed him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time, ⁶ and said to him, "To you I will give all this authority and their glory, for it has been delivered to me, and I give it to whom I will. ⁷ If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours." ⁸ And Jesus answered him, "It is written,

"You shall worship the Lord your God, and him only shall you serve."

⁹ And he took him to Jerusalem and set him on the pinnacle of the temple and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, ¹⁰ for it is written,

"He will command his angels concerning you, to guard you,'

¹¹ and

"On their hands they will bear you up, lest you strike your foot against a stone."

¹² And Jesus answered him, "It is said, 'You shall not put the Lord your God to the test." ¹³ And when the devil had ended every temptation, he departed from him until an opportune time.

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Offertory and Post-Communion Sentences

(Drawn from verses of Holy Scripture, these sentences are chosen by the celebrant or preacher to reinforce the lessons or teaching of the day.)

PROPER PREFACE

Lent

You bid your faithful people cleanse their hearts, and prepare with joy for the Paschal feast; that, fervent in prayer and in works of mercy, and renewed by your Word and Sacraments, they may come to the fullness of grace which you have prepared for those who love you.

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